

SANGSTER REPORT ATTACKED BY PEPCO

Lawyer for Company Declares
Commission's Value Should
Not Be Considered.

MOTION IS OVERRULED

Declares Expert for Utilities
Board Drew on Imagination
In Assaying Properties.

Declaring the report of Andrew Sangster, chief accountant of the valuation bureau, should not be considered because of omissions, S. R. Bowen, counsel for and secretary of the Potomac Electric Power Company today presented to the Public Utilities Commission his argument in relation to the valuation of the company's properties.

A motion to this effect made while Mr. Sangster was testifying was overruled by the commission and an exception noted.

Mr. Bowen said that Mr. Sangster, failing to obtain all the information necessary to a complete report, had "drawn on his imagination," and had not been "fair and open-minded" in his methods.

No Reflection on Commission. In criticizing the witness, Mr. Bowen said he wanted it to be understood that his criticism in no way reflected upon the commission, as Mr. Sangster had stated that he had followed his own methods and was responsible for the results.

When the witness was asked how he would arrive at a statement of the historical cost of a utility's properties, his answer was, "Mr. Bowen said, that ascertainment would be made from the books of the company showing the various stages the property had passed. This, Mr. Bowen declared, the accountant was unable to do.

Impossible to Do Justice. Referring to the relationship between the Potomac Electric Power Company and the Washington Railway and Electric Company, Mr. Bowen declared that it would be impossible to do justice or equity to either without understanding and giving consideration to such relationship.

The following reference to this is made in the 600-page brief filed by the company:

We submit that the stock of the Potomac Electric Power Company has not since 1899 been held by the public except in the sense of its being held by the stockholders of the Washington Railway and Electric Company and in such manner that the stock of the Potomac Electric Power Company is widely and indirectly held by the public.

Not Marked Distinction. This of itself is not such a marked distinction from the Consolidated Gas Case, when it is borne in mind that it was known to Congress that all the stock of the lighting companies would be held in a common ownership and single control with that of the street railways in the case of the Potomac Electric Power Company.

Would Impress Commission. In beginning his argument, Mr. Bowen said he wanted to impress upon the commission the fact that it is compelled to find its valuations upon the record of the hearings, and not upon the reports of its accountants and engineers.

In accepting the reports of its own experts, the commission, he said, was acting in an administrative capacity, but that in the final adoption of values, he said, it should depend solely upon the evidence, giving as much consideration to the testimony of others as of its own witnesses.

The prima facie ascertainment, he said, should be cast aside.

People's Representative. The general counsel of the commission, he said, was the people's representative, and the commission should act solely as arbiters.

Referring to the statement of Mr. Sangster that the company had not cooperated with the commission in making the valuations, Mr. Bowen said that this might be true in the sense the accountant construed it, but that he had not asked for a single book or record which was not immediately forthcoming.

Discusses Franchises. Franchises and easements and the values that should be given them was the subject of Attorney Douglas' argument yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Douglas recited a number of court decisions, notably that of the Consolidated Gas Company of New York to show that the item of \$2,500,000 for easements included in the report of Harold Albert, expert for the company but not allowed by Charles L. Pillsbury, chief engineer of the valuation bureau, should be considered by the commission.

The following reference to easements is made in the brief filed by the company:

"Failure to include property in easements amounts to confiscation in that a fair rate to that extent is denied."

Has Right to Return. "A utility has a right to a reasonable return upon the fair value of its property, and the Constitution of the United States protects such a utility from any impairment of this right, and as the rate of return will

be based upon the value of the property any failure to violate all the property of the utility violates the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution.

The Public Utilities Commission declares that the valuation that it is making is for rate-making purposes. Therefore, whatever valuation is reached by them, we are told, the commission will seek to base the rate of return thereon.

Will Deprive Company. "It is, therefore, contended by the company that the refusal to value property of the company in easements, and to the extent that a valuation may be used hereafter by the company as a basis of rates, will necessarily deprive this company of a fair rate of return upon all its property."

A refusal to value any part of the property of the company is to deny the company the protection of the Constitution. To deny to the company a proper rate of return is tantamount to a taking of the property in violation of its constitutional rights.

NEW CLASS MATRICULATES
Naval Medical School Presents Certificates to Graduates.

The next class at the Naval Medical School will begin its studies February 12 with a greatly increased enrollment over previous classes, E. R. Stitt, medical director in command of the institution, announced today.

Certificates have been presented by Surg. Gen. William C. Braisted to the following:

Assistant Surgeons Lockhart D. Arbuckle, Franklin T. Bower, Julian C. Brantley, Theodore E. Cox, James A. Halpin, Arthur W. Hoaglund, Irving W. Jacobs, Harold L. Jensen, Oden D. King, Aubrey M. Larsen, Edward K. Lee, John J. Loughlin, Franklin F. Murdoch, Philip F. Prioleau, Arthur C. Sinton, and Louis H. Williams.

Some of the recent assignments to duty of the graduating class are as follows: L. D. Arbuckle, J. A. Halpin, R. L. Jensen and E. K. Lee, to the Asiatic station; J. C. Brantley, O. D. King, J. J. Loughlin, A. C. Sinton, and L. H. Williams, to different vessels of the Atlantic fleet now at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

ENDS LIFE ABOARD TRAIN
Buffalo Bank Clerk Uses Razor En Route to New York.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 30.—Nathan W. MacDonald, of Buffalo, ended his life by cutting his throat while riding on the Empire State Express between Buffalo and Syracuse yesterday.

He was on his way to New York, where it is thought he intended to obtain work in a bank.

MacDonald was seen entering the washroom of a day car soon after the train passed Warren, a station thirteen miles west of this city. A few minutes later he was found dying on the floor of the room by another passenger.

A physician in another car was called, and with the train crew he worked over MacDonald until the train arrived in this city, at 4 o'clock. The car was detached from the train and the body of the victim was taken to the county morgue.

An open razor was found on the floor of the washroom. It was said the man probably was dead when found. At the morgue a search of MacDonald's pockets showed that he had more than \$500 in his pockets.

The money consisted chiefly of \$20 bills.

Papers found in his pockets showed that he was employed at the City Trust Company's bank, at Buffalo. He was a member of a Buffalo lodge of Odd Fellows.

Coroner Crane, of Onondaga county, after an investigation, decided MacDonald was mentally unbalanced.

PERSONALS
Mrs. W. J. Cornell, 7 Longley street, Marlboro, Mass., says Father John's Medicine keeps her family well and strong.

Mrs. Freta Coffey, of 327 South Twelfth avenue, Maywood, Ill., says she gives Father John's Medicine to all her children, and is grateful for the great good which it has accomplished.

Get rid of your
COLD
By Taking
**FATHER JOHN'S
MEDICINE**

No alcohol or dangerous drugs.
STOMACH UPSET?
Get at the Real Cause—Take Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets

That's what thousands of stomach sufferers are doing now. Instead of taking tonics, or trying to patch up a poor digestion, they are attacking the real cause of the ailment—clogged liver and disordered bowels.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets arouse the liver in a soothing, healing way. When the liver and bowels are performing their natural functions, away goes indigestion and stomach troubles.

If you have a bad taste in your mouth, tongue coated, appetite poor, lazy, don't-care feeling, no ambition or energy, troubled with undigested foods, you should take Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a purely vegetable compound mixed with olive oil. You will know them by their olive color. They do the work without gripping, cramps or pain.

Take one or two at bedtime for quick relief, so you can eat what you like. 10c and 25c per box. All druggists.

SNAGS IN WAY OF WILSON PROGRAM

Senate Democrats Find Scant
Time Remaining for Legis-
lation Urged.

WILL DITCH MANY BILLS

Wilson Railroad Strike Meas-
ures Practically Abandoned.
Compromise Now Sought.

With President Wilson telling his advisers that he believes his legislative program can be enacted this session, there was little optimism of this sort apparent today among Democratic leaders in the Senate.

Having less than five weeks left in which to legislate, they are not hopeful of getting much done before March 4, when the session of the Senate will close.

May "Ditch" Many Measures. Talk today continued that the most, if not all, of the program outlined by the President in his message would probably have to be "ditched."

This is the case in spite of the fact that night sessions will be tried by the Senate beginning Thursday.

Already, the President has practically abandoned one most important phase of his program. This is to force through railroad legislation which would restrain strikes.

House Against Program. The President was flatly told by Congressman Sims of Tennessee that he did not believe the House would approve that part of the program of the President which restrained or prohibited strikes pending investigation.

The President said he would not insist on any particular form of legislation, but that it was absolutely necessary something be done to deal with threatened strikes. Administration workers are working on a compromise proposition for an investi-

gating board made up of representatives of the roads and the brotherhoods and also of the public.

One of the interesting new propositions that has come up in the provision put into the legislative bill by Senator Poindexter to extend the civil service requirement to all postmasters. Senator Poindexter talked with the President about it. The President indicated it, and so has Postmaster General Burleson.

Wilson Favors Measure. The President told Senator Poindexter he would be gratified to see it adopted in the conference committee. He did not say he would bring pressure to that end, however. It is widely believed that it will quietly be dropped in conference.

Democracy to Meet. Plans for Marching in Parade To Be Made Tomorrow Night.

All Democrats of the District, irrespective of their voting places, have been asked to attend the meeting in the white parlors of the New Ebbitt at 8 o'clock tomorrow night, when arrangements will be made for the participation in the inaugural parade of the Wilson and Marshall Democratic Association of the District.

Charles W. Darr, president of the organization, who issued the call, said this afternoon he expected at least 1,000 Washington Democrats to be in this section.

Each man will wear a silk hat, chambray gloves, dark coats, trousers, and shoes, and will carry a cane.

PLAN RITES FOR MRS. KERR. The funeral of Mrs. Amelia K. Kerr, wife of Stirling Kerr, Jr., deputy in the District of Columbia for the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, will be held from the Church of the Incarnation tomorrow at 2 o'clock. The Rev. William Taylor Snyder, pastor, will officiate. Interment will be in Rock Creek Cemetery.

IS OAK TREE VALUE REAL OR ROMANTIC?

Condemnation Jury Struggles
With Question in Determining
McLean Estate Damage.

(Continued from First Page.)

apiece for them. District counsel objected on the ground that the estimate was romantic.

The witness, who was corroborated by William F. Gude estimated \$15,000 damages would be done the property by the removal of trees and shrubbery alone.

Mr. Spiedt declared removal of the wall would entail an expenditure of more than \$27,000 in the event it was found necessary to use new material in the building of a new wall. He stated that rebuilding of the structure, which is more than a half mile in length, with its pretentious gates and fountain, with the material taken from the present wall would cost at least \$21,000.

More than \$35,000 and probably more than \$40,000 damage would be done the property, the experts testified.

Trees Are Very Old. Attorney Lambert in questioning Mr. Small brought out that the large oaks which shade the territory near the wall and which will have to be removed in event the avenue is widened according to present plans, are between 100 and 150 years old.

Mr. Small when questioned by attorneys for the Government in reference to whether or no places like Friendship were much in demand about Washington and whether it wouldn't be of more value cut up into building lots, declared that the average man would be surprised to know the number of inquiries made by wealthy Americans for large villas and villa sites in the vicinity of the National Capital.

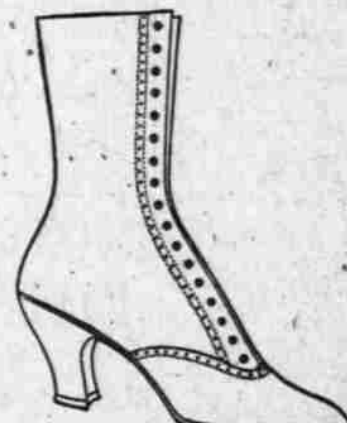
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BASEMENT SHOE STORE

Superior shoes of soft black kid, patent leather, and gun metal with cloth and kid tops; Spanish, Cuban and low heels, and a few combination leathers.



Special \$2.15

Guaranteed for style, comfort, and wear.
Good range of sizes and widths.

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THE BASEMENT STORE

Spring Dresses Just Arrived

The makers are anxious to introduce their new models—and have been willing to grant price concessions in connection with early and large orders. Thus these dresses that will prove a delightful surprise after they are seen and critically examined.

At \$5.75 All-wool Serge Dresses for misses, seniors, and school girls, including regulation and dainty waist line models, with red buttons and pipings, collars of white flannel, plaid silk or blue broadcloth, two pockets on skirt. Also a few one-piece Norfolk styles. Dresses worth \$7.50 to \$10.00 are included at only \$5.75.

At \$7.98 Women's Wool Serge Dresses, in straight and regular waist line models. Also a few misses' chiffon dresses for evening wear, in pink, maize, light blue, and green.

At \$10.00 Women's and Misses' Dresses of crepe de chine, taffeta silk; nets and laces over silver cloth and taffeta. Also a few serge dresses, some with touches of high color embroidery.

At \$12.75 Included are various Silk Dresses, new short tunic and plaid styles. Some surplice style, with sash at back. With touches of hand embroidery, some of these dresses look worth much more than \$12.75.

New Dresses, with many features not to be expressed in words. They have to be seen to be duly appreciated—and they can be profitably purchased now, because less prices than later are assured.

Palais Royal—Basement Store.

ON BASEMENT TABLES

GINGHAMS—Including Toilet du Nord and Amoy; guaranteed fast colors, in a variety of checks, plaids, and stripes. Regular 1½c quality; per yard

12½c

CREPES—Attractive designs and colorings in 31-inch Windsor Kimono crepe, 1½c a yard quality; per yard

9c

VOILES—And Tissues, white ground with stripes in colors. Mill remnants. 25c to 1½c a yard; per yard

17c

DIMITIES—And Voiles, in stripes and small and large designs. Per yard

10c

HOSIERY—Women's Full Fashioned Lisle Hosiery, made to retail at 35c pair. At 15c, because mill mended, termed "seconds." Fine gauge weight, in all sizes

19c

CHILDREN'S "Seconds" of ribbed black hose, in all sizes up to 9½. 25c grade, per pair

15c

DAMASK—72 inches wide. Bleached and mercerized damask in pretty floral and striped effects, usually 55c yard.

49c

UNDERWEAR—Women's ribbed union suits, regular and extra sizes. Special, at

29c

BED SPREADS—Crocchet Bed Spreads, in a variety of designs; some in the lot have slight flaws; most of them are perfect. \$1.39 values at

1.39

TOMORROW'S FOURTH FLOOR SPECIALS



100-PIECE DINNER SETS, DECORATED IN COLORS, AT VERY SPECIAL PRICES

This January Clearance will prove the last of such prices for such elegantly decorated American Porcelain Sets. Prices in the wholesale market are already much higher, with no prospect of a decline. To invest in Chinaware tomorrow is to save dollars.

\$15.00 Sets at... \$12.50 **\$23.00 Sets at... \$20.00**
\$21.75 Sets at... \$18.00 **\$25.00 Sets at... \$22.00**

Jardiniers
200 Matt Green Jardiniers.
7-in., reg. 45c... 29¢
8-in., reg. 59c... 39¢
9-in., reg. 98c... 50¢
10-in., reg. \$1.20. 79¢

Art Matt Vases, green finish. Choice 25¢
for only... Palais Royal—Fourth floor—Six Elevators.



\$12 Domes, \$9.50

Gas or electric, with 8 removable art glass panels, fine beveled brass overlaid castings. Value, \$12.00. At \$9.50.

Domes with beautiful art glass panels in amber and amber-green with artistic overlaid castings. Complete for gas or electric.

22-in. size, at \$7.50
18-in. size, at \$5.25

INSTALLED FREE. Any dome purchased now we will install free of charge. Choice of a large variety of gas and electric domes, direct and indirect lighting.

"Rayo" Student Lamp, \$1.59

Complete with center draft burner and glass shade. The "Rayo" is the ideal lamp for the student for everyone who reads. Save your eyes and your money with a "Rayo" at only \$1.59.

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New York Beef
With Mashed Potatoes 15c

White Palace Lunch Room
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of Grippe and Colds—
Keep on hand a
Generous Supply of

ROCK AND RYE
\$1.50 the Bottle.
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156,397 Increase

And 1917 will find still further increases for The Washington Times.